Dockets Management Branch Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, Maryland 20852

11656 '99 MAY 17 A9:42

Re: Docket No. 98N-1038, Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food

Dear FDA,

It is one thing to approve irradiation for food processing. It is quite another to dupe consumers by depriving us of our right to have such foods <u>prominently and clearly</u> labeled so we can exercise free choice over whether or not we wish to buy these products.

To best serve consumers and to maintain its credibility, the FDA should require these labels to contain such forthright, descriptive terms as "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation." Using the word "pasteurization" on these products clearly would be misleading.

Sincerely,

Andrew Wheat 703 W. Annie

Austin, TX 78704

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